

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier versions and listings.

Claims 1-3. (canceled)

Claim 4. (currently amended): A communication system ~~according to Claim 1,~~ controlling a logical connection comprising:

a controller;

a source node including a first connection control register; and

a destination node including a second connection control register,

wherein said controller is adapted to select one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between said source node and said destination node, to set the logical connection to be used between said source node and said destination node, to access the first connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by said controller and information for the logical connection set by said controller, to access the second connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by said controller and information for the logical connection set by said controller, and

wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claims 5 and 6. (canceled)

Claim 7. (currently amended): A communication system according to Claim [[1]] 4, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claims 8-16. (canceled)

Claim 17. (currently amended): A communication system according to Claim [[1]] 4, wherein said controller, said source node[[,]] and said destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit connectable to a serial bus.

Claim 18. (currently amended): A communication system according to Claim [[1]] 4, wherein said controller, said source node[[,]] and said destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit ~~conforming to an~~ conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claims 19-26. (canceled)

Claim 27. (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ method ~~according to Claim 20;~~ for a communication system that includes a controller, a source node including a first connection control register, and a destination node including a second connection control register which controls a logical connection between the source node and the destination node, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

setting the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

accessing the first connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller; and

accessing the second connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller,

wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claim 28. (previously presented): A ~~communication~~ method according to Claim [[20]] 27, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claim 29. (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ method according to Claim [[20]] 27, wherein the controller, the source node[, ] and the destination node are adapted to ~~communication~~ communicate with each other using a communication unit connectable to a serial bus.

Claim 30. (currently amended): A ~~communication~~ method according to Claim ~~[[20]]~~ 27, wherein the controller, the source node~~[[,]]~~ and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit ~~conforming to an~~ conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 31 and 32. (canceled)

Claim 33. (currently amended): A controller ~~according to claim 32, which~~ controls a logical connection between a source node including a first connection control register and a destination node including a second connection control register, said controller comprising:

a controlling unit adapted to select one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node, to set the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node, to access the first connection control register to store therein information for the selected communication protocol and information for the set logical connection, and to access the second connection control register to store therein information for the selected communication protocol and information for the set logical connection, and

wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claim 34. (currently amended): A controller according to ~~claim 32~~ Claim 33, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claim 35. (currently amended): A controller according to ~~claim 32~~ Claim 33, wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit connectable to a serial bus.

Claim 36. (currently amended): A controller according to ~~claim 32~~ Claim 33, wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to ~~communicate~~ communicate with each other using a communication unit ~~conforming to an~~ conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 37. (cancelled)

Claim 38. (currently amended): A method ~~according to claim 37~~, for a controller which controls a logical connection between a source node including a first connection control register and a destination node including a second connection control register, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

setting the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

accessing the first connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller; and

accessing the second connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller,

wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claim 39. (currently amended): A method according to ~~claim 37~~ Claim 38, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claim 40. (currently amended): A method according to ~~claim 37~~ Claim 38, wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit connectable to a serial bus.

Claim 41. (currently amended): A method according to ~~claim 37~~ Claim 38, wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit ~~conforming to an~~ conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 42. (new): A communication system controlling a logical connection comprising:

a controller;  
a source node including a first connection control register; and  
a destination node including a second connection control register,  
wherein said controller is adapted to select one of a first or a second  
communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between said source node  
and said destination node, to set the logical connection to be used between said source node  
and said destination node, to access the first connection control register to store therein  
information for the communication protocol selected by said controller and information for  
the logical connection set by said controller, to access the second connection control  
register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by said  
controller and information for the logical connection set by said controller, and  
wherein said controller, said source node and said destination node are  
adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit conformed to IEEE  
1394-1995 standard.

Claim 43. (new): A communication system according to Claim 42, wherein  
the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a  
broadcast communication.

Claim 44. (new): A communication system according to Claim 43, wherein  
the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast  
communication.

Claim 45. (new): A method for a communication system that includes a

controller, a source node including a first connection control register, and a destination node including a second connection control register which controls a logical connection between the source node and the destination node, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

setting the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

accessing the first connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller; and

accessing the second connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller,

wherein the controller, the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 46. (new): A method according to Claim 45, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.



Claim 47. (new): A method according to Claim 46, wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claim 48. (new): A controller which controls a logical connection between a source node including a first connection control register and a destination node including a second connection control register, said controller comprising:

a controlling unit adapted to select one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node, to set the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node, to access the first connection control register to store therein information for the selected communication protocol and information for the set logical connection, and to access the second connection control register to store therein information for the selected communication protocol and information for the set logical connection, and

wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 49. (new): A controller according to Claim 48, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claim 50. (new): A controller according to Claim 49, wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.

Claim 51. (new): A method for a controller which controls a logical connection between a source node including a first connection control register and a destination node including a second connection control register, said method comprising the steps of:

selecting one of a first and a second communication protocol as a communication protocol to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

setting the logical connection to be used between the source node and the destination node in the controller;

accessing the first connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller; and

accessing the second connection control register to store therein information for the communication protocol selected by the controller and information for the logical connection set by the controller,

wherein the source node and the destination node are adapted to communicate with each other using a communication unit conformed to IEEE 1394-1995 standard.

Claim 52. (new): A method according to Claim 51, wherein the second communication protocol is a communication protocol that does not use a broadcast communication.

Claim 53. (new): A method according to Claim 52, wherein the first communication protocol is a communication protocol that uses a broadcast communication.